



Plant Diversity in India

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About the Book

India has a vast landmass of 328 million hectares, extending from the tropics to the alpine regions, rich wetlands to deserts, islands, long coastline to Western and Eastern Ghats and the high Himalayas. It has equally rich and diverse plant diversity, with over 47,000 species that are already documented. Because of the large population dependence on these plants, expansion of agriculture, urbanization and development efforts, many species are threatened too. Some of the issues concerning plant diversity in India are unique to the country. Taxonomic and floristic studies on all major groups have been carried out but the information is scattered in research papers and regional/local floras, manuals and monographs. This volume intends to bridge this gap. Nine of the thirteen chapters of this volume deals with different plant groups extending from algae to angiosperms and allied groups such as bacteria, fungi, lichens, and myxomycetes. There are chapters dealing with topical issues in global context on biodiversity with special reference to India such as climate change and its impact on biodiversity, crop diversity, and tradomedicalism. Each chapter is written by author(s) specialising on the particular group and having long experience of research in it. Each chapter includes not only distribution and diversity but also major researches, economic uses and conventional human interactions. Lacunae in current knowledge are also pinpointed. The book provides information on ecosystem diversity, flora of special sensitive regions (mangroves, wetland, and coral reefs), and on policies and strategies being adopted for in situ and ex situ conservation.

Salient Features

- Covers all the major phyla of the plant kingdom - from bacteria to angiosperms and gymnosperms.
- Covers areas of ecological and economic importance, protection and preservation, biotechnological applications and so on.
- Up-to-date in terms of cited references pertaining to research milestones in respective area.

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About the Author

A K Bhatnagar :- served as a Professor and Head in the Department of Botany, University of Delhi. He was briefly on deputation as a Senior Environmental Officer and Principal Scientific Officer in Conservation and Survey Division of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi. At the University of Delhi, he taught reproductive biology, plant diversity and environmental biology for over 30 years. He has co-edited four books (one on Plant Diversity and Conservation), co-authored one book "Ethnobotany: Himalayan Region", and has published about 70

research papers and an equal number of semi-technical and popular articles on plants and environment. He recently chairs a research committee and is a member of Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) and Ecosystem Research Committee (ERC) on mining (non-coal) in Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

Rupam Kapoor :- is Professor in the Department of Botany, University of Delhi where she has been teaching plant pathology, plant microbe interactions and microbial biotechnology for over a decade. She has co-authored 45 research papers in international journals. Besides, she has contributed chapters in edited volumes of international standard.